



CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN
MINUTES
August 25, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER

Rebecca Turrentine, Chair, called the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children to order at 5:05 p.m., in the large conference room at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Present:

Rebecca Turrentine, Chair
Pierre Batton, Vice Chair

Sotheara Chhay
Fabian Gonzalez
Helen Ingram
Kate Levinstein
Jon Meyer
Victor Perez
Lauren Perry

Alexis Peterson
Jessica Quintana
Marc Rothenberg
Mary Soth
Chanel Suares
Chelsii Summerville
Jennifer To

Absent:

Jeanetta McAlpin (excused) Christopher Young (excused)
Lou Santos (excused)

Staff:

Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Andrew Romero, Youth Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Dan Hendricks, Commission Clerk, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Christina Santos, Data Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Guests:

Chris Steinhauser, Superintendent LBUSD
Sean McPhetridge, LBUSD
Chris Burcham, Long Beach Public Library
Cecile Walters, Neighborhood Services Bureau

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Quintana and seconded by Commissioner Perez to approve the July 28, 2004 Commission on Youth and Children minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMENTS

Co-Chair Rebecca Turrentine introduced the Commissioners to Christina Santos, the Data Specialist for the ReportCard Committee. She then introduced Chris Steinhauser and asked him to address the Commission.

Chris Steinhauser, the Superintendent of Long Beach Unified School District, addressed the Commission regarding his appreciation of the work that the Commission is doing and specifically mentioned the Link Crew program at Poly, Cabrillo, Milliken and Wilson. He mentioned how useful the program was for incoming Freshmen. Chris Steinhauser went on to mention the 21st Century grant program and listed some of the specific campuses and programs that would benefit from the funding. He requested that the Commission keep in touch with their fellow students and provide feedback as to which programs are most appreciated.

Cecile Walters, from Neighborhood Services Bureau and the Long Beach Branch NAACP addressed the Commission to thank Commissioners Turrentine and Gonzalez for providing a presentation to the Community Development Advisory Commission. Cecile Walters then informed the Commission about the 2004 Youth Award, which will be given out in October. Applicants must submit an essay on the topic of the 50th Anniversary of the Supreme Court case Brown v. Board of Education. Copies of the application form were given to all of the Commissioners.

Andrew Romero then told the Commission that Commissioner Kate Levinstein did the Pledge of Allegiance at the City Council meeting and got a certificate of recognition from Council Member Rae Gabelich. Mr. Romero also drew attention to the fact that Commissioners Chhay, Gonzalez, Batton, Perry and Soares are all participating in the Crew Link program.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

CYC administrative issues update:

Cynthia Fogg touched on the activities of the Youth Services Network. The Executive Planning Committee of the Youth Services Network met the week before and Commissioner Soth attended. She was happy to see the many good programs that were going on in Long Beach. The Network decided to alter it's schedule to meet every other month instead of monthly, so as to be more timely in coordinating with the Long Beach Youth & Gang Task Force and Commission on Youth and Children.

The Executive Planning Committee of the Youth Services Network is working on giving the Commission on Youth and Children a template, which they can use to nominate someone to receive recognition for extraordinary work within the community. They must determine their application process and distribute them to potential applicants.

Ms. Fogg also passed out an initiative for Health Pass to Commissioners and public regarding a group looking to lower obesity in youth. They hope to be able to issue a Health Alert every two months on a specific topic. Their current topic was on limiting fats in school lunches, via Assembly Bill 2686, but the specific wording of the bill was not available. Cynthia Fogg assured the Commission that she would obtain a copy of the text of the bill and get it to them, probably by e-mail.

Cynthia Fogg then addresses another flyer promoting Smoke Free Beaches, and mentioned that this came from a previous issue before the Commission, but that they have altered their recommendation to just address the smoke free beaches issue, dropping the earlier component of licensing issues.

It was moved by Co-Chair Batton and seconded by Commissioner Suares to reopen the unfinished business of the Smoke Free Beaches Initiative. The motion was carried unanimously.

This led to some debate as to whether or not the Commission should support the Smoke Free Beaches initiative, specifically as to whether or not it would be appropriate for the Commission on Youth and Children to support the initiative, and how they should go about doing so if that was the consensus.

It was moved by Commissioner Levinstein and seconded by Commissioner To to authorize staff to generate and send a letter endorsing Smoke Free Beaches to the Marine Advisory Commission with CCs to the Mayor and City Council Members. The motion carried unanimously.

Finally, Cynthia Fogg had received a request that the new 9th District Commissioner, Lou Michael Santos be added to the Youth and Gang Task Force. She forwarded this request to those members of the Commission who are already members of the Youth and Gang Task Force.

V. CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Commission Co-Chair Turrentine attend the L.A. Commission on Youth and Families two weeks previously and saw one of their commissioners say some very nice things about Long Beach's Commission on Youth and Children. The Commissioner said that they were attempting to get more youth involved in their Commission, as she was impressed at the work the Long Beach Commission has done.

The Commission Executive Committee, along with Commissioners Quintana, Levinstein, Ingram, Gonzalez and Young have been meeting with various Council Members. Thus far, they have met with Councilwoman Uranga, Councilwoman Gabelich and Councilman Baker.

It was moved by Commissioner Quintana and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to receive and file the reports the executive Committee meetings with elected officials. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. REPORTS

a. Committees

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Commissioner Turrentine and Batton, Co-Chairs

(August 10th meeting)

The Executive Committee discussed rescheduling the official Commission meeting time from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. as Commission meetings were running an average of two hours in length and not actually being adjourned until 7:00 p.m. A tentative schedule including Commission times of 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. was prepared.

It was moved by Commission Co-Chair Batton and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to have staff rewrite the schedule to place the Commission meeting from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with a ten minute break. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT CARD COMMITTEE Commissioner Levinstein, Committee Member
(August 4th meeting)

The Committee has appointed Commissioner Levinstein and Commissioner Peterson to serve as Co-Chairs of the Committee. The Committee reviewed a draft of the document, but determined that they can't make any decisions on indicators or on the draft in general until they have the all data. There was a significant amount of discussion on what to call the report. Christina Santos is now working for the Committee, and various departments are getting in touch with her to provide all data needed. Christina is also looking in to working with Professor Marc Flacks at Cal State Long Beach to coordinate with getting data with the assistance of his class on the Sociology of Youth.

It was moved by Commissioner Peterson and seconded by Commissioner Soth to receive and file the updated CYC 2004 – 2005 CYC Meeting Schedule. The motion carried unanimously.

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES (LCC) PLANNING COMMITTEE Commission Co-Chair Batton, Committee Member
(August 20th meeting)

Commissioner Batton said the last LCC Planning Committee meeting reviewed the final budget and agenda for the event. The budget income is from a wide variety of sources, and there might be extra funds left over, which will probably go in the Commission's Partners for Parks account. Mr. Romero indicated that those donating funds have received verbal thanks, but that he is waiting on drafting a letter of thanks from the Commission until such time that the funds have arrive. Cynthia Fogg then gave a brief overview of the League of California Cities as a municipal advocacy group with an annual conference that is in Long Beach every two years. As part of that, there is a youth element for youth from around the state to learn and do workshops in conjunction with the adult activities. Since the formation of the Commission on Youth and Children, we have decided to host the event. The youth members of the Commission will probably get out of school to help run the event. Ms. Fogg told the

Commissioners that more information would be given to them as soon as it was available.

It was moved by Commissioner Levinstein, and seconded by Commissioner Suares to approve the final agenda and budget estimate. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Standing Items

I. Education and Youth Strategic Plan

No report for this meeting

II. District Level Youth Advisory Councils

a. Report on June DLYAC meetings.

Andrew Romero and the various youth Commissioners present reported on the following schedules for the District Level Youth Advisory Councils.

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| <i>District 1</i> | Will be meeting in September |
| <i>District 2</i> | New Contact, Lauren Templin, will be meeting later |
| <i>District 3</i> | Will be meeting Monday, August 30th |
| <i>District 4</i> | Met and discussed the LCC |
| <i>District 5</i> | Met with Tim Patton, DYLACs will be at the field office |
| <i>District 6</i> | Will be meeting September 8 at 11:00 a.m. |
| <i>District 7</i> | Met on the 23 rd and discussed having a Halloween Dance as a fund raising activity. |
| <i>District 8</i> | Pending - Veronica Servin |
| <i>District 9</i> | Met Aug 12 th – planning a neighborhood clean-up day |

Andrew Romero also informed the Commission that the DLYACs will be meeting with a representative from WINTER (Women in Non-Traditional Employment Roles) who will be attempting to work with the schools to increase youth voter registration. Mr. Romero also informed the Commission that time spent in a DLYAC will count towards the community service hours required for graduation of the class of 2007 and later.

It was moved by Commissioner Suares and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to receive and file the reports from the August DLYAC meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Youth and Gang Violence Task Force

The most recent report from the Youth and Gang Violence Task Force has not yet been completed as they are awaiting feedback from several council offices that have not yet seen the report.

It was moved by Commissioner Perry and seconded by Commissioner Perez to hold over the outstanding reports until the DLYACs can all meet with their council members. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Report(s)

Youth Engagement Task (YET) Force – A Call to Action Steven Giraldo, co-chair of the L.A. County Children's Planning Council Youth Engagement Task Force was unable to attend and make the presentation, but Commissioner Rothenberg and Co-Chair Batton briefed the Commission on the current activities of the Youth Engagement Task Force, as well as the Long Beach Youth and Gang Task Force

It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Chhay to receive and file the YET initiative by adopting the recommendations and responding to the Call to Action. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **Anti-Bullying Legislation (April 28th, 04)** - The CYC voted at its April meeting to have staff from the Office of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez return with further information on the legislation, including the bill language before deciding upon a position. **Status:** CYC staff contacted Congresswoman Sanchez's office to set up a date for returning more detailed information.
- b. **Executive Committee Meetings with Mayor and City Council (April 28th, 04)** **Status:** Review the schedule of proposed Executive Committee meetings with Mayor and City Council, which indicates scheduled dates of meetings along with names of those Commissioners who reside in the district and who may wish to participate in the meeting. No action necessary.
- c. **Long Beach Youth Fund (April 28th, 04)** **Status:** Pending funding.
- d. **Youth Services NETWORK Executive Planning Committee (EPC) nomination process for recognition award – Status:** Pending
- e. **Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) Workshops for CYC (May 26th, 04)** - The CYC authorized staff to contract with YLI to organize **four** workshops intended to advance youth/adult relationships and their impact on policy. **Status:** The CYC has now held two of the workshops.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 22nd**, at 5:00 p.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Perry to adjourn the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children at 7:15 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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48 hours prior to the meeting, at (562) 570-3538.**